

Patent Claims

1. A process for communication between a hearing aid and an individual, in which time-limited electrical audio signals (Q) are fed to an electromechanical output transducer (5) of the hearing aid in addition to signals that are acoustic or electric audio signals fed by the hearing aid on the input side (1), characterized by the fact that at least some of the time-limited audio signals (Q) are user-defined.
2. The process in Claim 1, characterized by the fact that the time-limited electric audio signals are produced as acknowledgment signals on control signals (M, F, Z) on or to the hearing aid.
3. The process in one of Claims 1 or 2, characterized by the fact that at least some of the time-limited audio signals (Q)
 - are stored on user-changeable memory elements (20) for the hearing aid, preferably read-only, and/or
 - are filed user-defined in a memory unit (9a, 11b), which is built into the hearing aid (9a) and has or can be brought into a working, preferably wireless connection with it, and/or
 - user-defined location information in the hearing aid for the audio signals mentioned is filed on an audio signal carrier and the audio signals can be called up selectively from the carrier via that information.
4. The process in one of Claims 1 to 3, characterized by the fact that the electromechanical output transducer is a loudspeaker and at least some of the time-limited electric audio signals (Q) are produced so that the results of the conversion are audible by an individual at a distance.
5. The process in one of Claims 1 to 4, characterized by the fact that the user definition of the time-limited electric audio signals is menu-driven, preferably by a communications unit (15) that can be connected to the hearing aid and is preferably wireless.
6. The process in Claim 5, characterized by the fact that the communications unit controls the menu via a visual display and/or voice control, preferably by feeding voice signals into the hearing aid.
7. A hearing aid system with at least one hearing aid, which contains:
 - a signal-processing unit (3) which is connected on the output side to

- an electromechanical transducer with a working connection,
- an audio signal generator unit, whose output also has a working connection to the input of the electromechanical transducer (5),

characterized by the fact that the audio signal generator unit (9, 9a, 9b) has a user-changeable memory (20, 11a) and/or a read/write memory (9a) that can be written on by the user.

8. The system in Claim 7, characterized by the fact that the audio signal generator unit (9, 9a, 9b) has an addressing input (I) for the memory (20, 9a), which has a working connection with control signal-producing organs (7, 3) in the hearing aid.

9. The system in Claim 8, characterized by the fact that the production unit includes manually activated switching organs (M) on the hearing aid and/or organs having a working connection to a remote-control input of the hearing aid and/or the signal-processing unit (3).

10. The system in one of Claims 7 to 9, characterized by the fact that the read/write memory is designed for user-defined storage of audio-signal sequences of a predetermined length or the fact that the write input of the read/write memory can or does have a working connection to or has a working connection to an audio signal source.

11. The system in Claim 10, characterized by the fact that the audio source I is an audio player or a unit with an Internet connection.

12. The system in one of Claims 7 to 11, characterized by the fact that it includes a display unit for visual and/or voice-controlled menu control, which has or can have a working connection to the control-signal-producing organs of the hearing aid, on one hand, and to the audio-signal generator unit on the other.

13. The system in Claim 12, characterized by the fact that the display unit is designed for voice control by menus and has a working connection on the output side with the input of the electromechanical transducer of the hearing aid.